

AMENDMENTS IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 4, 6, 15, 21, 27, 31, 50 and 54 by this amendment as follows:

1 1. (Currently Amended) A transparent, elastic and free standing composition for the
2 manufacture of candles, comprising:
3 a hydrocarbon oil in a proportion of from about 75 to about 88 in weight percent; and
4 at least one copolymer selected from the group consisting of triblock polymers and diblock
5 polymers in a proportion of from about 12 to about 25 in weight percent, the weight percent of the
6 hydrocarbon oil and the weight percent of the at least one copolymer being in relation to a mixture
7 of the hydrocarbon oil and the at least one copolymer, a viscosity of the hydrocarbon oil being
8 greater than 32 cSt at 40°C, and the flash point of the hydrocarbon oil being greater than 220°C.

1 2. (Previously Presented) The transparent, elastic and free standing composition for the
2 manufacture of candles as set forth in claim 1, wherein the viscosity of the hydrocarbon oil is 67.8
3 cSt at 40° C.

1 3.(Previously Presented) The transparent, elastic and free standing composition for the
2 manufacture of candles as set forth in claim 1, wherein the flash point of the hydrocarbon oil is at
3 240°C.

1 4. (Currently amended) The transparent, elastic and free standing composition for the
2 manufacture of candles as set forth in claim 1, wherein the copolymer is a triblock copolymer with
3 about 30 weight percent of polystyrene end blocks and about 70 weight percent of a poly (ethylene-
4 butylene) mid block.

1 5. (Previously Presented) The transparent, elastic and free standing composition for the
2 manufacture of candles as set forth in claim 1, wherein the hydrocarbon oil is 83.8 weight percent
3 and the at least one copolymer is 16.2 weight percent of the mixture of the hydrocarbon oil and the
4 at least one copolymer.

1 6. (Currently Amended) A transparent, elastic and free standing composition for the
2 manufacture of candles, comprising:

3 a hydrocarbon oil in a proportion of from 73 to 88 in weight percent; and
4 at least one copolymer selected from the group consisting of triblock polymers and diblock
5 polymers in a proportion of from 12 to 27 in weight percent, the weight percent of the hydrocarbon
6 oil and the weight percent of the at least one copolymer being in relation to a mixture of the
7 hydrocarbon oil and the at least one copolymer, a viscosity of the hydrocarbon oil being greater than
8 32 cSt at 40°C, and the flash point of the hydrocarbon oil being greater than 220°C.

1 7. (Previously Presented) The transparent, elastic and free standing composition for the
2 manufacture of candles as set forth in claim 6, wherein the viscosity of the hydrocarbon oil is 67.8
3 cSt at 40° C.

1 8. (Previously Presented) The transparent, elastic and free standing composition for the
2 manufacture of candles as set forth in claim 6, wherein the flash point of the hydrocarbon oil is at
3 240°C.

1 9. (Previously Presented) The transparent, elastic and free standing composition for the
2 manufacture of candles as set forth in claim 6, wherein the copolymer is a triblock copolymer with
3 about 30 weight percent of polystyrene end blocks and about 70 weight percent of a poly (ethylene-
4 butylene) mid block.

10-14. (Canceled)

1 15. (Currently Amended) A transparent, elastic and free standing composition for the
2 manufacture of candles, consisting essentially of:

3 a hydrocarbon oil in a proportion of from 73 to 88 in weight percent; and

4 at least one copolymer selected from the group consisting of triblock polymers and diblock
5 polymers in a proportion of from 12 to 27 in weight percent, the weight percent of the hydrocarbon

oil and the weight percent of the at least one copolymer being in relation to a mixture of the hydrocarbon oil and the at least one copolymer, a viscosity of the hydrocarbon oil being greater than 32 cSt at 40°C, and the flash point of the hydrocarbon oil being greater than 220°C.

16. (Previously Presented) The transparent, elastic and free standing composition as set forth in claim 15, wherein the hydrocarbon oil is 83.8 weight percent and the at least one copolymer is 16.2 weight percent of the mixture of the hydrocarbon oil and the at least one copolymer.

17-20. (Canceled)

21. (Currently Amended) A free standing candle, comprising:
a hydrocarbon oil in a proportion of from about 75 to about 88 in weight percent; and
at least one copolymer selected from the group consisting of triblock polymers and diblock polymers in a proportion of from about 12 to about 25 in weight percent, the weight percent of the hydrocarbon oil and the weight percent of the at least one copolymer being in relation to a mixture of the hydrocarbon oil and the at least one copolymer, a viscosity of the hydrocarbon oil being greater than 32 cSt at 40°C, and the flash point of the hydrocarbon oil being greater than 220°C, the candle maintaining a free standing condition even when the candle is lit by means of a flame produced as consequence of the combustion of a candlewick that extends through the candle and projects toward outside an end of the candle.

1 22. (Previously Presented) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 21, wherein the
2 candlewick is a cotton string imbibed in an alcoholic solution of vegetal resin.

1 23. (Previously Presented) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 21, wherein the
2 candlewick is firmly retained in a passing hole, the passing hole is produced in the candle when the
3 mixture of the hydrocarbon oil and the copolymer is at room temperature, and the passing hole
4 extends through the candle in longitudinal correspondence to an axis of symmetry extending from
5 a lower base of the candle.

1 24. (Previously Presented) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 21, wherein the
2 candle is formed by union of a plurality of different minor portions, each of the minor portions being
3 individually formed of the hydrocarbon oil in a proportion of from about 75 to about 88 in weight
4 percent and the at least one copolymer selected from the group of triblock polymers and diblock
5 polymers in a proportion of from about 12 to about 25 weight percent, the weight percent of the
6 hydrocarbon oil and the weight percent of the at least one copolymer being in relation to the mixture
7 of the hydrocarbon oil and the at least one copolymer, the viscosity of the hydrocarbon oil being
8 greater than 32 cSt at 40°C, and the flash point of the hydrocarbon oil being greater than 220°C.

1 25. (Original) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 21, further comprising:

2 coloring essences in the mixture including the hydrocarbon oil and the at least one
3 copolymer.

1 26.(Original) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 21, further comprising:
2 aromatic fragrances in the mixture including the hydrocarbon oil and the at least one
3 copolymer.

1 27. (Currently Amended) The free standing candle as set ~~froth~~ forth in claim 21, further
2 comprising:
3 air bubbles in the mixture including the hydrocarbon oil and the at least one copolymer, the
4 air bubbles being distributed through the candle formed by the mixture.

1 28. (Original) The free standing candle as set froth in claim 21, further comprising:
2 decorative elements, the decorative elements being provided in the mixture forming the
3 candle so as to be visible from outside of the candle.

1 29. (Previously Presented) The free standing candle as set froth in claim 28, wherein the
2 decorative elements are arranged in the candle so as to be placed outside a portion of the candle
3 adjacent to the candlewick.

1 30. (Previously Presented) The candle as set forth in claim 21, wherein the hydrocarbon oil
2 is 83.8 weight percent and the at least one copolymer is 16.2 weight percent of the mixture including
3 the hydrocarbon oil and the at least one copolymer.

1 31. (Currently Amended) A free standing candle, comprising:
2 a hydrocarbon oil in a proportion of from 73 to 88 in weight percent; and
3 at least one copolymer selected from the group consisting of triblock polymers and diblock
4 polymers in a proportion of from 12 to 27 in weight percent, the weight percent of the hydrocarbon
5 oil and the weight percent of the at least one copolymer being in relation to a mixture of the
6 hydrocarbon oil and the at least one copolymer, a viscosity of the hydrocarbon oil being greater than
7 32 cSt at 40°C, and the flash point of the hydrocarbon oil being greater than 220°C, the candle
8 maintaining a free standing condition even when the candle is lit by means of a flame produced as
9 consequence of the combustion around a candlewick borne by the candle.

1 32. (Previously Presented) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 31, wherein the
2 candlewick is a cotton string imbibed in an alcoholic solution of vegetal resin.

1 33. (Previously Presented) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 31, wherein the
2 candlewick is firmly retained in a passing hole, the passing hole is produced in the candle when the
3 mixture of the hydrocarbon oil and the copolymer is at room temperature, and the passing hole

4 extends through the candle in longitudinal correspondence to an axis of symmetry extending from
5 a lower base of the candle.

1 34. (Previously Presented) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 31, wherein the
2 candle is formed by union of a plurality of different minor portions, each of the minor portions being
3 individually formed of the hydrocarbon oil in a proportion of from 73 to 88 in weight percent and
4 the at least one copolymer selected from the group of triblock polymers and diblock polymers in a
5 proportion of from 12 to 27 weight percent, the weight percent of the hydrocarbon oil and the weight
6 percent of the at least one copolymer being in relation to the mixture of the hydrocarbon oil and the
7 at least one copolymer, the viscosity of the hydrocarbon oil being greater than 32 cSt at 40°C, and
8 the flash point of the hydrocarbon oil being greater than 220°C.

1 35. (Original) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 31, further comprising:
2 coloring essences in the mixture including the hydrocarbon oil and the at least one
3 copolymer.

1 36. (Original) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 31, further comprising:
2 aromatic fragrances in the mixture including the hydrocarbon oil and the at least one
3 copolymer.

1 37. (Original) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 31, further comprising:
2 air bubbles in the mixture including the hydrocarbon oil and the at least one copolymer, the
3 air bubbles being distributed through the candle formed by the mixture.

1 38. (Original) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 31, further comprising:
2 decorative elements, the decorative elements being provided in the mixture forming the
3 candle so as to be visible from outside of the candle.

1 39. (Previously Presented) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 38, wherein the
2 decorative elements are arranged in the candle so as to be placed outside a portion of the candle
3 adjacent to the candlewick.

40. (Canceled)

1 41. (Withdrawn) A process of manufacturing a transparent, elastic and free standing candle
2 body, comprising the steps of:
3 preparing a mixture comprising a hydrocarbon oil and at least one copolymer selected from
4 the group consisting of triblock polymers and diblock polymers, wherein said hydrocarbon oil is in
5 a proportion from about 12 to about 25 in weight percent, a viscosity of the hydrocarbon oil is greater

6 than 32 cSt at 40°C, and a flash point of the hydrocarbon oil is greater than 220°C, and said at least
7 one copolymer is in a proportion from about 12 to about 25 in weight percent;

8 stirring the mixture to make the mixture transparent;

9 pouring the mixture in a mold;

10 cooling the mixture in the mold to produce a candle body; and

11 demolding the candle body from the mold to obtain a transparent, elastic and free standing
12 candle body.

1 42. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 41, wherein the viscosity of the hydrocarbon oil is
2 67.8 cSt at 40° C.

1 43. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 41, wherein the flash point of the hydrocarbon oil is
2 at 240 °C.

1 44. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 41, wherein the copolymer is a triblock copolymer
2 of “Kraton® G 1652”.

1 45. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 41, wherein said hydrocarbon oil is 83.8 weight
2 percent and said at least one copolymer is 16.2 weight percent of the mixture.

1 46. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 41, wherein the stirring step is conducted at a
2 temperature ranging from 80 °C to 160 °C.

1 47. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 41, wherein the temperature of the mixture at the
2 pouring step is in the range from 150 °C to 160 °C to provide the clear and transparent candle body.

1 48. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 41, wherein the temperature of the mixture at the
2 pouring step is in the range from 100 °C to 120 °C to provide the candle body having air bubbles.

1 49. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 41, further comprising the step of:
2 before the cooling step, placing a decorative element in the mold.

1 50. (Currently Amended) A transparent, elastic and free standing composition, comprising:
2 a hydrocarbon oil in a proportion of from about 75 to about 88 in weight percent; and
3 at least one copolymer selected from the group consisting of triblock polymers and diblock
4 polymers in a proportion of from about 12 to about 25 in weight percent, the weight percent of the
5 hydrocarbon oil and the weight percent of the at least one copolymer being in relation to a mixture
6 of the hydrocarbon oil and the at least one copolymer, a viscosity of the hydrocarbon oil being
7 greater than 32cSt at 40°C, with said hydrocarbon oil and said copolymer combined to provide an
8 elastic mass that remains free standing while bearing a flame from combustion of said elastic mass.

1 51. (Previously Presented)The transparent, elastic and free standing composition of claim
2 50, wherein a flash point of the hydrocarbon oil is greater than 220°C.

1 52. (Previously Presented) A candle, comprising:
2 a hydrocarbon oil in a proportion from about 73 to about 88 weight percent, said hydrocarbon
3 oil being liquid within a temperature range between 0 °C and 200 °C, said hydrocarbon oil having
4 a density at 20 °C of not less than 0.88 kg/L, said hydrocarbon oil being transparent, said
5 hydrocarbon oil having a viscosity of not less than 32 cSt at 40 °C, said hydrocarbon oil having a
6 flash point of not less than 220 °C; and
7 at least one copolymer selected from the group consisting of triblock copolymer and diblock
8 copolymer, said copolymer in a proportion from about 12 to about 27 weight percent,
9 said candle being elastic and transparent, said candle body maintaining a free standing
10 condition even when the candle is lit.

1 53. (Previously Presented) A candle, comprising:
2 a candle body comprising:
3 a hydrocarbon oil in a proportion from about 73 to about 88 weight percent; and
4 at least one copolymer selected from the group consisting of triblock copolymer and
5 diblock copolymer, said copolymer in a proportion from about 12 to about 27 weight percent,

6 said candle body being elastic and transparent, said candle maintaining a free standing
7 condition even when the candle is lit; and
8 a wick placed in said candle body,
9 said candle being without a container for holding said candle when the candle is lit.

1 54. (Currently Amended) A candle, comprising:

2 a hydrocarbon oil in a proportion from about 73 to about 88 weight percent, said hydrocarbon
3 oil having a viscosity of not less than 32 cSt at 40 °C, said hydrocarbon oil having a flash point of
4 not less than 220 °C; and

5 a triblock copolymer ~~with about 30 weight percent of polystyrene end block and about 70~~
6 ~~weight percent for a poly(ethylene-butylene) mid block, said copolymer having a tensile strength of~~
7 ~~about 4,500 psi, an elongation at break of about 500 percent, modulus at 300 percent extension of~~
8 ~~about 700 psi~~ of "KRATON®G 1652" in a proportion from 12 to 27 weight percent,

9 said candle being elastic and transparent, said candle maintaining a free standing condition
10 even when the candle is lit.

1 55. (Previously Presented) A candle, comprising:

2 a hydrocarbon oil in a proportion from about 73 to about 88 weight percent, said hydrocarbon
3 oil having a feature of remaining liquid within a temperature range between 0 °C and 200 °C, said

4 hydrocarbon being transparent, said hydrocarbon having a viscosity of 67.8 cSt at 40 °C, said
5 hydrocarbon having a flash point of 240 °C; and

6 at least one copolymer selected from the group consisting of triblock copolymer and diblock
7 copolymer, said copolymer in a proportion from about 12 to about 27 weight percent,

8 said candle being elastic and transparent, said candle maintaining a free standing condition
9 even when the candle is lit.

1 56. (Previously Presented) The candle of claim 55, wherein said hydrocarbon oil is in a
2 proportion from about 83.8 weight percent and said hydrocarbon has a viscosity of 67.8 cSt at 40 °C
3 and a flash point of 240 °C, and said copolymer is in a proportion from about 16.2 weight percent.